

**BILL PAYMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS OFFERED BY  
CERTAIN MUNICIPALITIES****CHAPTER 25**

S.B. No. 758

**AN ACT****relating to bill payment assistance programs offered by certain municipalities.***Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Texas:*

SECTION 1. Section 1502.056(a), Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) If the revenue of a utility system, park, or swimming pool secures the payment of public securities issued or obligations incurred under this chapter, each expense of operation and maintenance, including all salaries, labor, materials, interest, repairs and extensions necessary to provide efficient service, and each proper item of expense, is a first lien against that revenue. For a municipality with a population of more than one million but less than two million, the first lien against the revenue of a municipally owned utility system that secures the payment of public securities issued or obligations incurred under this chapter also applies to funding, as a necessary operations expense, for a bill payment assistance program for utility system customers who:

(1) ~~[have been threatened with disconnection from service for nonpayment of bills and who]~~ have been determined by the municipality to be low-income customers; or

(2) are military veterans who have significantly decreased abilities to regulate their bodies' core temperatures because of severe burns received in combat.

SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2017.

Passed the Senate on March 30, 2017: Yeas 29, Nays 2; passed the House on May 4, 2017: Yeas 111, Nays 35, two present not voting.

Approved May 18, 2017.

Effective September 1, 2017.

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**COMPOSITION OF THE TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION****CHAPTER 26**

S.B. No. 763

**AN ACT****relating to the composition of the Texas Historical Commission.***Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Texas:*

SECTION 1. Section 442.002(b), Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

(b) The commission is composed of 15 ~~[nine]~~ members appointed by the governor with the advice and consent of the senate. *One member must have expertise in archeology, preferably as a professional archeologist, one must have expertise in history, preferably as a professional historian, and one must have expertise in architecture, preferably as a professional architect who is licensed in this state and has expertise in historic preservation and architectural history. The remaining members must represent the general public.*

A person is ~~[may]~~ not eligible for appointment as ~~[be]~~ a member of the commission if the person or the person's spouse:

(1) owns or controls, directly or indirectly, more than a 10 percent interest in a business entity or other organization regulated by the commission or receiving money other than grant money from the commission;

(2) uses or receives a substantial amount of tangible goods, services, or money from the commission, other than compensation or reimbursement authorized by law for commission membership, attendance, or expenses; or